

the Curious Person went to a Politician. He was a Low Politician, who went about in his shirt sleeves, and did many funny things in order to keep control in his ward.

"Aw, Bartzen ain't got no horse sense," said the Low Politician. "He's always fightin' about something, an' he wont let well enough alone. Then he's bullheaded. When the men higher up try to call him off he talks rough stuff, and tells the men higher up to go to."

"Why do the papers attack him so much?" asked the Curious Person.

"Ain't I just tellin' you? He's always startin' something! An' then he's gone an' attacked a bunch of society women, and that got him in bad with the papers, of course."

Still, this did not seem to explain everything. So the Curious Person went on until he came to another sort of Politician—one who wore gloves and manicured his finger nails.

"What's the matter with Bartzen?" asked the Curious Person.

The Manicured Politician looked at the Curious Person very pitifully indeed.

"Why, he's nothing but a hod carrier, a low, common hod carrier," he said.

"But that doesn't prevent him making a good president of the county board, does it?" asked the Curious Person.

"You don't know very much about Chicago politics, do you?" asked the Manicured Politician.

The Curious Person admitted, with a shamed face, that he had always been honest so far.

"Well, Bartzen can't go into society. He couldn't wear a dress suit if he tried to—not, and make it look right.

"And then he hasn't any tact. If a proposition is made to him, and he doesn't think it's square, he says so, right out, and sometimes he uses bad language."

"That is very wrong of him," admitted the Curious Person. "But still, it does not prevent him being a good president of the county board, does it?"

"What has that to do with it?" asked the Manicured Politician.

The Curious Person explained rather lamely that he thought the people elected Bartzen to carry on the affairs of the county board, and not to wear a dress suit, nor be careful of his language when propositions were made to him.

"You are green, aren't you?" exclaimed the Manicured Politician. "The people have nothing to do with this. It is the politicians higher up who are grieved at Bartzen. He has upset things, and fired friends of the men higher up, but worst of all, he has accused society women of betraying their trust."

"How did that come about?" asked the Curious Person.

"Well, when Bartzen got into office he made an investigation, instead of keeping his eyes shut, and he discovered that some society women were doing some very peculiar things with the county's money, and that little